

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: YOSHIHIRO KATO ET AL  
Serial No.: NOT YET ASSIGNED  
Filed: CONCURRENTLY HERewith  
Title: PLASMA PROCESS SYSTEM AND PLASMA PROCESS  
METHOD

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

**Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

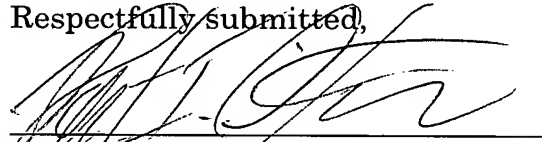
In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicants enclose herewith a copy of a corresponding foreign Search Report citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of that portion of the Search Report indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

If necessary, the paper should be considered as a petition for consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(2) and that the petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(3) should be charged to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #010986.52582US).

July 22, 2003

Respectfully submitted,



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| FORM PTO-1449<br>U.S. Department of Commerce<br>Patent & Trademark Office<br><br><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT</b><br><i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i> | Attorney Docket No.<br>010986.52582US | Serial No.<br>Not yet assigned |
|  | Applicant: Yoshihiro KATO et al.      |                                |
|  | Filing Date<br>Concurrently herewith  | Group                          |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |    |                 |      |      |       |           |                              |
|-----------------------|----|-----------------|------|------|-------|-----------|------------------------------|
| Examiner Initial      |    | Document Number | Date | Name | Class | Sub-Class | Filing Date (if appropriate) |
|                       | AA |                 |      |      |       |           |                              |
|                       | AB |                 |      |      |       |           |                              |
|                       | AC |                 |      |      |       |           |                              |
|                       | AD |                 |      |      |       |           |                              |
|                       | AE |                 |      |      |       |           |                              |
|                       | AF |                 |      |      |       |           |                              |
|                       | AG |                 |      |      |       |           |                              |
|                       | AH |                 |      |      |       |           |                              |
|                       | AI |                 |      |      |       |           |                              |
|                       | AJ |                 |      |      |       |           |                              |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |    |                 |         |         |       |           |             |    |
|--------------------------|----|-----------------|---------|---------|-------|-----------|-------------|----|
| Examiner Initial         |    | Document Number | Date    | Country | Class | Sub-Class | TRANSLATION |    |
|                          |    |                 |         |         |       |           | Yes         | No |
|                          | AK | 04-237123       | 8/25/92 | Japan   |       |           | Abstract    |    |
|                          | AL |                 |         |         |       |           |             |    |
|                          | AM |                 |         |         |       |           |             |    |
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|                          | AO |                 |         |         |       |           |             |    |
|                          | AP |                 |         |         |       |           |             |    |

| OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) |    |  |
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| EXAMINER   | DATE CONSIDERED |
| EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication. |                 |